Amendments to the Specification:

In the Abstract, please replace the Abstract currently on file with the amended Abstract attached hereto on its own separate sheet.

On Page 1, before the first paragraph, please add the following paragraphs:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

On Page 1, between the first and second paragraphs, please insert the following paragraph:

2. Description of the Related Art

On Page 2, between the first and second full paragraphs, please insert the following paragraph:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

On page 2, please replace the third full paragraph with the following rewritten paragraph:

This object is attained by a plant ~~according to the generic~~

~~clause of claim 1 having the features contained in the characterising part~~ for manufacturing and packaging tubes formed of a tubular body including at least one plastic foil and, connected at one end thereof, a shoulder portion with a threaded neck, fitted with a closure cap. The tubes are fed via a conveyor belt to a packaging station, where they are packaged to form larger units. The foil strip is a dual or multiple-strip, cut by one or a plurality of partitioning knives into individual webs, which are in each case welded in parallel planes to form endless tubes and which are cut to the desired tube length by transverse cutters. The tubular bodies manufactured parallel to one another are then assembled into a larger transfer group and are jointly transferred to a turn table comprising a corresponding number of mandrels, the turn table conveying them jointly and stepwise to stations for fitting the shoulder portion with a threaded neck and the closure cap, whereupon the finished tubes are deposited on a discharge belt, formed of at least two toothed belts situated parallel next to one another and comprising transport prisms, the partitioning of which corresponds to that of the mandrels on the turn table, and being fed to control regions for examining the tubes and the flawless

tubes being received by the discharge belt by means of rotatable suction prisms corresponding to the spacing of the transport prisms and being fed continuously to a tray.

On page 2, please replace the fourth full paragraph with the following rewritten paragraph:

Advantageous embodiments are ~~apparent from the subsidiary claims~~ discussed below.

On Page 3, after the fourth full paragraph, please insert the following paragraph:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

On Page 3, before the first full paragraph, please insert the following paragraph:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS